

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Resurvey on None Eaton called the Mary

AND/OR COMMON

DARNALL PLACE (preferred)

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East of Poolesville at  
17615 White's Ferry Road

CITY, TOWN

Poolesville

☒ VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
Eighth

STATE

Maryland

CODE  
24

COUNTY

Montgomery

CODE  
031

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT

☒ PUBLIC

☒ OCCUPIED

☒ AGRICULTURE

☐ MUSEUM

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ PRIVATE

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ PARK

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ BOTH

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDEN

☐ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ OBJECT

☐ IN PROCESS

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ NO

☐ MILITARY

☐ OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Robert W. Lanham, Director  
Department of Economic & Community Development

STREET & NUMBER

101 Fleet Street

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Maryland 20850

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Montgomery Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE  
Maryland

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1936

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE  
D.C.

# DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☒ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Darnall Place is located on the north side of Maryland Route 107 just east of Dry Seneca Creek about 1.2 miles west of Dawsonville in the vicinity of Poolesville, Montgomery County, Maryland. It is a farm complex of four small 18th century stone buildings, a 19th century frame wagon shed/corn crib, a 20th century concrete block barn, and three late 19th or early 20th century frame sheds.

The stone buildings, a house, meathouse/dairy, slave quarter/kitchen, and barn, are all constructed of red-brown Seneca sandstone. The ground on the place is bright red clay. The drive goes up a slope from the main road into the center of the cluster of buildings, then continues north to the dairy barn and cemetery. The place is still farmed and fields flank it on the west and north. To the south and east and between the fields are trees. The trees shield the property from the road, strengthening the cohesive quality of the complex.

Examination of the stone buildings indicates their age to be at least 175 years old by the presence of wrought iron nails, roof rafters joined without ridge poles, mortise and tenon joints with wooden pegs, mortar made almost entirely of clay with little or no lime added, and hand hewn timbers. The construction of the buildings, while very solid and well proportioned, is also very simple. The stone is laid on the ground, and the 24-inch walls are thick enough to stand unsupported. Timber plates are laid on the tops of the walls with roof timbers, notched and joined, resting on the plates. The hand-cut shingles were nailed on roof slats to sheath the roofs. Over some of the doors and windows are stone voussoirs forming jack arches; over others, a single flat stone forms the lintel.

The dwelling (A) contains a 14 1/2 foot square room with doors to the east and south, a small window facing west, and a cooking fireplace in the north wall. The west wall extends 14 feet to form a protected porch, now enclosed. The loft and roof extend as one over the main room and porch. A small log room once flanked the porch on the south, and a six-room frame house had been added to the log room. (The reverse may be the case. The frame house may have predated the stone house, the latter being added as a kitchen and porch.) A fire destroyed the roof and loft of the stone dwelling, the log room, and the six-room frame house in 1952. The frame house was replaced with a similar structure and the interior of the stone house remodeled following the fire.

The meathouse/dairy contains two rooms divided by a stone partition. One room contains hooks and blackened beams indicating its use as a smokehouse. The other room had a trough in the floor for cold water to store dairy products. (D)

The slave quarter/kitchen (C) has a door on the east, a small window on the west, a cooking fireplace on the north wall with an interesting stone arch, and a dirt floor. The single opening on the second story is

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Darnall Place  
Montgomery County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

a door in the south wall reached by a ladder placed against the exterior wall.

The barn (B) measures 20 X 40 feet. The few stone barns that remain in this area are all much larger than this, usually 30 X 60 feet. One of this small size is extremely unusual, attesting to the modest scale of the farming operation of the builder.

A stone fence of Seneca sandstone in dry wall construction encloses a family graveyard (E). Scalloped headstones dated 1830, 1840, 1842, and 1855, are cut of the same sandstone. Each grave is also marked with a small footstone of sandstone.

Henrietta d. 19 Dec 1848, 82 yrs Darnall

Thomas d. 7 June 1830, 65 yrs Darnall

Amos Young Darnall d. 9 July 1836, 9 months 24 days

Charles William Darnall d. 6 Sept 1837, 4 months, 13 days

The other buildings on the property include the following:

(F) 19th century frame wagon shed with corn crib; gable-roofed structure covered with weatherboards except corn crib which has vertical slats; two shed-roofed additions, one on each end with vertical board sheathing.

(G) late 19th or early 20th century shed, all milled wood, circular sawn, gable roof, vertical and horizontal siding.

(H) 20th century frame chicken coop.

(I) 20th century cinder block barn.

(J) and (K) 20th century frame sheds.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the section of Montgomery County in which this farm is located, many log houses and a few large manor houses remain to demonstrate the way of life of the early settlers. But among these there is no other combination of early buildings of the scale, material or type of construction as that found at the "Darnall Place." It is a complex of small stone farm buildings reminiscent of a farmstead in Europe or the British Isles. There is no sign of professionalism in design, only practicality and basic principles of construction applied to achieve a beauty, simplicity and solidity that have endured for nearly two centuries.

The group of buildings has continued in the same function from the time they were built, that of a middle class farmer's dwelling, the building for processing and storing his food, housing for his help, and shelter for his animals. Except for the absence of a tobacco barn, it is possible to see in this group, beneath a minimal overlay of modernization, the pattern of a late eighteenth century farmer's domestic and farming practices.

The earliest recorded document of the "Darnall Place" is a patent filed by Daniel Veirs for 109 acres, called "None Eaton," dated 1755.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the rent on the land he paid a further rent for "some improvements." It is not possible to establish whether or not the "improvements" were the four stone buildings discussed here, or other buildings no longer existing. In 1761 Daniel Veirs filed a patent for the "Resurvey on None Eaton," adding to the original 109 acres, "contiguous to which Tract the Petitioner had discovered some Vacant Land" the amount of 1,450 acres.<sup>2</sup> "The Resurvey on None Eaton called the Mary" is the title which passes from deed to deed in the transfer of the "Darnall Place." When Daniel Veirs died in 1766, it was willed to his wife, and on her death to his sons. Daniel Veirs was a third generation colonist, his grandfather having come to Anne Arundel County in 1677.<sup>3</sup> His will refers to the nearby dwelling places of his sons and leaves large amounts of land,<sup>4</sup> so that by 1766 the "Sugarlands" area of Montgomery County must have been well settled.

Following this period of original settlement of the "Sugarlands," 225 acres of Daniel Veirs' land was sold in 1767 to Mary Dyson, whose son, Maddox Dyson, 24 years old, is mentioned in the deed. A 1776 census shows the farm to be occupied by Mary, Maddox, Maddox's wife and four children, one negro slave, and one indentured white man. A 1783 land assessment lists a tobacco barn which is no longer standing. The

See Continuation Sheet #

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Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Revolution occurred during the period of Maddox Dyson's occupancy of the farm. He was called on to sign the "Oath of Fidelity and Support to Maryland," as were his neighbors,<sup>5</sup> but there is no record of his having served in the war. It was also during his occupancy that the former President of the United States rode near, or through, his lands. George Washington records in his Diary for August, 1785: "Saturday, 6th ... In my ride from George Towne to this place, I made the following observations:...That land about the Maryland Sugar Lands (1400 acres of which belong to George Plater, Esq) which is five Miles above Seneca, is remarkably fine, and very level..."<sup>6</sup>.

In 1808 this 225 acre farm was bought by Thomas Darnall. When he died in 1830, he owned 15 slaves (and two other farms). He specified which slaves were to remain on this farm to work and care for his widow and those of their eight children who still remained at home. His will tells us that two men and a woman were required for the work. It is Thomas Darnall, his wife and two of his grandchildren, who are buried in the little family graveyard. It is probably because of the existence of the graveyard that the place continues to bear the Darnall name.

Samuel Dyson, whose forbears were also early settlers in this area and in Anne Arundel County before that, bought the farm in 1857. During his occupancy the Civil War was fought and this section of Montgomery County was occupied almost constantly by Union troops. An important signal relay station was located only two or three miles away. Farmers in the neighborhood were continually required to furnish food, horses, tack and sometimes shelter for the troops. Many Dyson family stories recount the incidents that occurred in this community of Southern sympathizers reluctantly hosting the enemy.

When Albert Sellman became owner of the "Darnall Place" in 1926, it was no longer an owner occupied farm, but one on which a hired farmer lived. The tenant, with his wife and large family of children, continued to grow crops for marketing and food for his own family much as his predecessors had done in the same location. It was during their occupancy, in 1936, that it was included in the HABS described as follows: Darnall House, fieldstone, 1 story, late 18th century, 7 photos.

In 1963 Eugene Casey bought the farm and now rents the land to a contract farmer. For the first time in their long history, the buildings are no longer kept in repair nor used for their original purpose.

See Continuation Sheet #3

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

M: 18-21

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PAGE 3

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The vernacular architecture of the four Darnall farm buildings that produced the beauty, simplicity and solidity which endures today, their construction of native stone, their resemblance to rural cottages of Europe and the British Isles, their continuous use as a middle class family's farmstead until the very recent past, could all be available today as a visible lesson in history and architecture.

To walk among these small buildings in their practical arrangement and lovely setting is immediately to sense the practical but sensitive aesthetics that shaped the buildings as well as to sense the farm functions and home life that have taken place here for nearly two hundred years.

<sup>1</sup> "patent filed by Daniel Veirs ... 1755." Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md. Liber BC & GS #1, Folio 302 & L-BC&GS #2, F-256

<sup>2</sup> "patent ... 1,450 acres." Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md. Liber BC & GS 14, Folio 638 and Liber BC & GS #17, Folio 217

<sup>3</sup> "grandfather ... 1677" Aud, Kathleen L. & Susan E., Our Ancestors. Silver Springs, Md. 1972. Chapter: Veirs.

<sup>4</sup> "Sugarlands" The name given to a section of Montgomery County Md., which abounded in sugar maple trees. Later, Sugarland Hundred was a political unit like a township in New England, a militia district and a district for the assessment of taxes.

<sup>5</sup> "Oath of Fidelity and Support" Brumbaugh, G.M., Revolutionary Records of Maryland page 6.

<sup>6</sup> "...and very level." John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., George Washington Diaries. Vol. II, pps. 398, 399.

<sup>7</sup> "late 18th century, 7 photos" Historic American Buildings Survey. Catalogue. Photographs, 1936.

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**ADDENDUM TO SIGNIFICANCE**

The structures individually and the farmstead as a whole retain enough significant design and integrity to convey the feeling of a small farmer's life in the late 18th and early 19th century. The complex is of particular interest for the construction techniques in stone, the survival of a large number of early outbuildings, and its unusual rather English flavor. The alterations and additions have not detracted from the significance of the structures individually or as a farmstead. It is, however, extremely important that these buildings receive some attention before they are lost. Recent county ownership of the property is expected to provide this attention.

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M: 18-21

- Aud, Kathleen L. Susan E. Our Ancestors. Silver Springs, Md.: Compiled and published by the authors, 1972.
- Brumbaugh, G.M. Revolutionary Records of Md. Annapolis, Md. 1924.
- Fitzpatrick, John C. , ed. George Washington Diaries, Vol. II.
- Forman, H. Chandlee. Maryland Architecture. Cambridge, Md.: Tidewater Publishers, 1968.

See Continuation Sheet # 5

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 18 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 1.8 29.5 47.0 4.3 3.3 51.0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 1.8 29.5 1.8 4.3 3.3 0.4

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

B 1.8 29.5 3.2 4.3 3.3 0.6

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D 1.8 29.5 2.2 4.3 3.3 4.3

Reference to Montgomery County Deed 5207-695, September 20, 1978 (enclosed) and plat map (enclosed).

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

njm

NAME / TITLE

Ms. Mary Ann Kephart

ORGANIZATION

Historic Medley District, Inc.

DATE

January 5, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 232

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Poolesville,

STATE

Maryland 20837

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐ STATE ☐ LOCAL ☒

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*[Signature]*

12-14-78

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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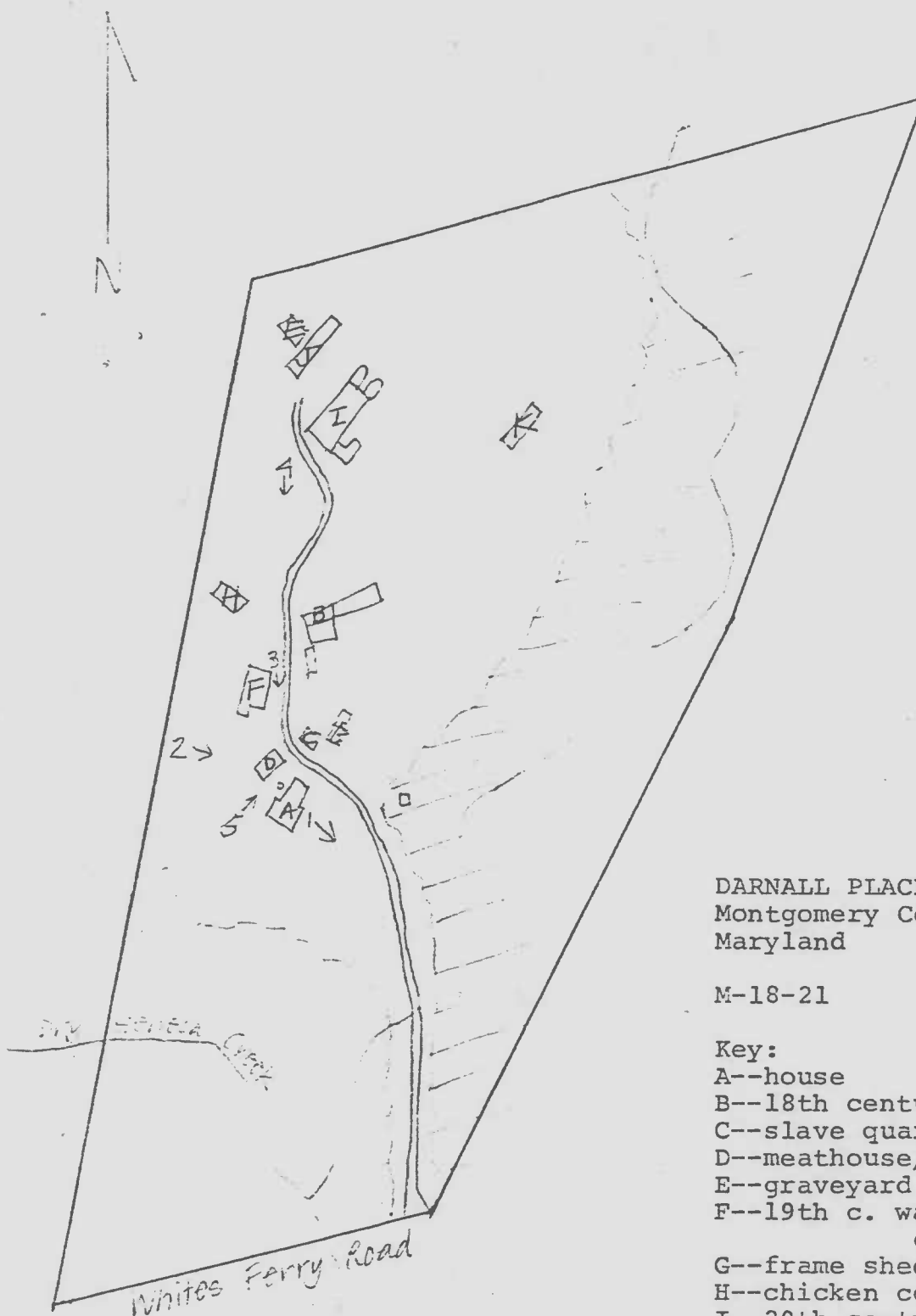
DATE ENTERED

Darnall Place  
Montgomery County,

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 5

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

- Hiebert, Ray Eldon and MacMaster, Richard K. A Grateful Remembrance, The Story of Montgomery County, Md. Rockville, Md., 1976.
- Historic American Buildings Survey. Recording Historic Buildings. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Govt. Printing Office, 1970.
- Historic American Buildings Survey. Catalogue. Photographs, 1936. Compiled by National Park Service. U.S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1941.
- Land Records and Wills. Frederick County Courthouse, Frederick, Md.
- Land Records, Wills, Equity Cases. Montgomery County Courthouse. Rockville, Md.
- Land Records and Wills. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.
- Morrison, Hugh. Early American Architecture. New York: Oxford University Press, 1952.
- Scharf, History of Western Maryland. 1880.
- Sween, Jane Chinn. Dawsonville and Seneca. Unpublished, 1967.
- Weslager, C. A. The Log Cabin in America. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1969.
- Woodforde, John. The Truth about Cottages. London: Routledge Kegan Paul, 1969.
- Darnall Family Records. Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, Md.
- Dyson Family Records. Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, Md.



DARNALL PLACE  
Montgomery County  
Maryland

M-18-21

Key:

- A--house
- B--18th century barn
- C--slave quarter/kitchen
- D--meathouse/dairy
- E--graveyard
- F--19th c. wagon shed/  
corn crib
- G--frame shed
- H--chicken coop
- I--20th century barn
- J--frame shed
- K--frame shed

approximate scale:  
1"=200'

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Montgomery County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

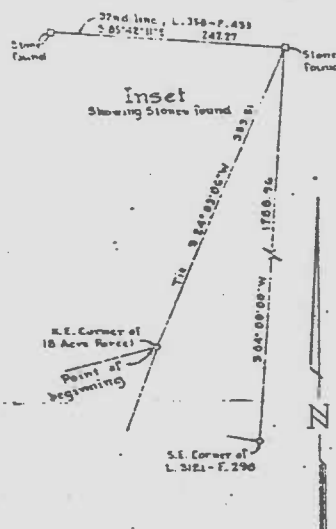
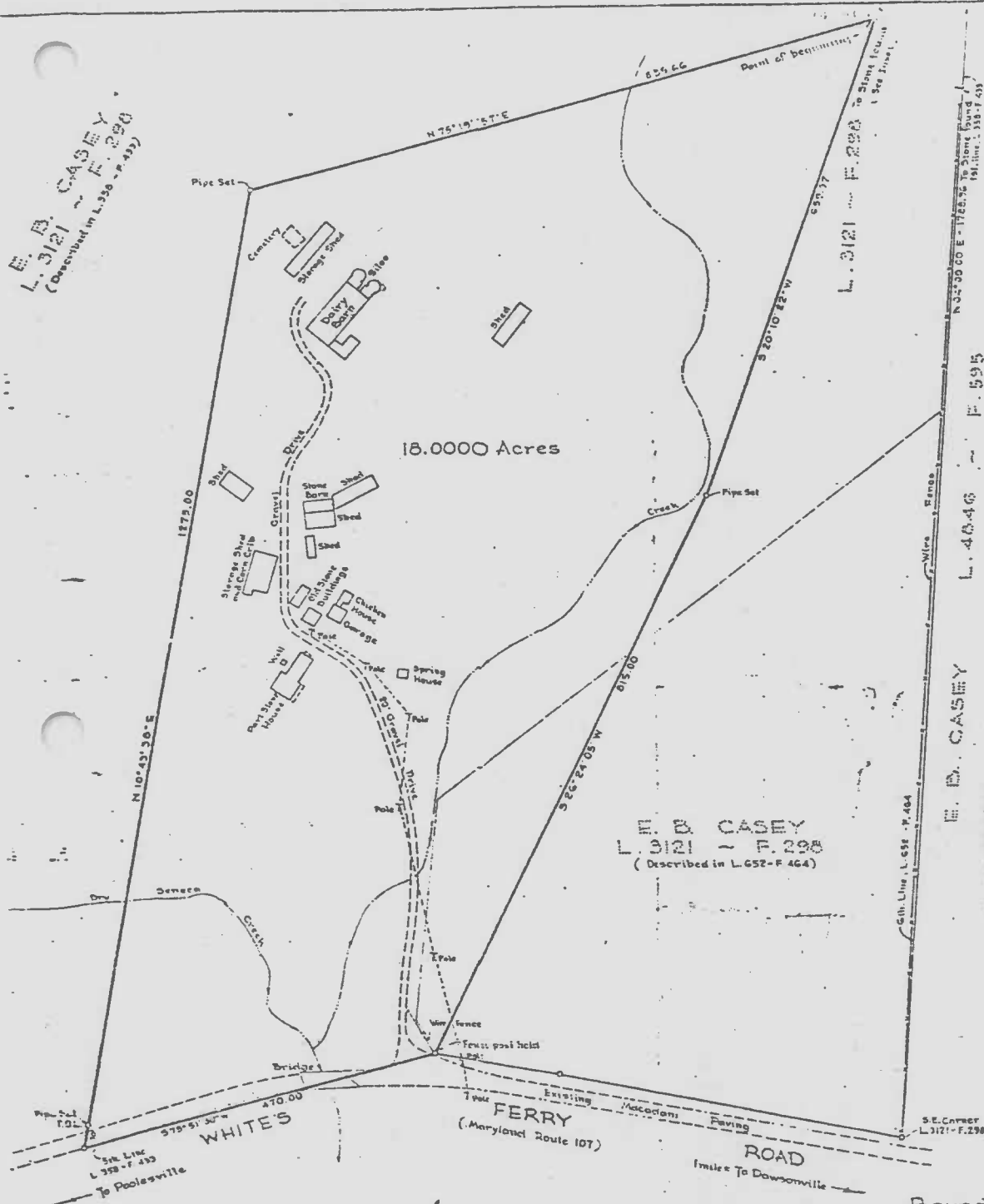
ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 6

**Acreage justification:**

The acreage chosen for the Darnall Place nomination is that recently purchased by Montgomery County--eighteen acres. This amount of land is necessary to include all of the outbuildings, the house, the drive, and the creek.

E. B. CASEY  
L. 3121 - F. 298  
(Described in L. 350 - F. 432)



### Surveyor's Certificate

I hereby certify that the plan shown hereon is correct; that it is a survey of a part of the land conveyed by Albert H. Sellman and Elizabeth H. Sellman, his wife, to Eugene B. Casey by deed dated August 8, 1963 and recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland in Liber 3121 at Folio 298.

The improvements shown hereon were located by a transit-tape survey and property markers have been found or placed where indicated hereon.

The total area included within the bounds of this survey 18,000 acres of land.

August 10, 1978

Paul K. Miller  
Professional Land Surveyor, Md. #7154

### NOTE

Outline and area revised from 24 acres to 18 acres 8-9-78

NOTE  
This survey was performed without benefit of a title report and is subject to any errors or omissions or other circumstances of record, if any, that a title search may disclose.

## Boundary Survey Part of Eugene B. Casey Property

Downtownville - Montgomery County, Maryland  
August, 1978

Oyster, Imus & Peizold, Inc.

Civil Engineers • Land Planners • Land Surveyors  
2413 Heedle Drive • Wheaton, Maryland • 20759-2011

2218 2-1

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Darnall Place  
Montgomery County  
Maryland

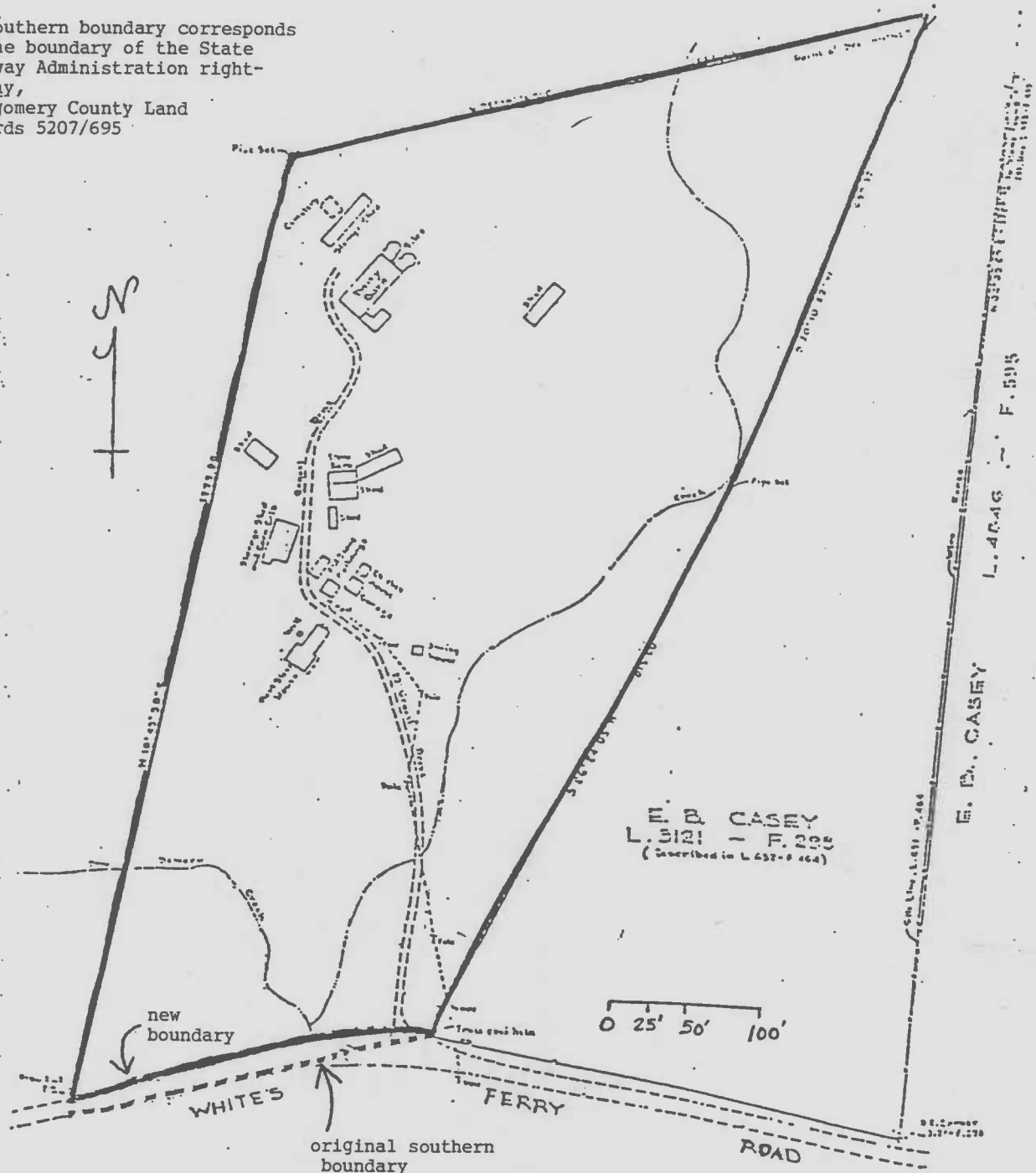
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Section number 10 Page A

May, 1989

BOUNDARY MAP      acreage: 17.7

new southern boundary corresponds  
to the boundary of the State  
Highway Administration right-  
of-way,  
Montgomery County Land  
Records 5207/695



MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

M:18-21  
William Donald Schaefer  
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers  
Secretary, DHCD

30 May 1989

Ms. Carol Shull  
Chief of Registration  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
P. O. Box 37127  
Washington, D. C. 20013-7127

re: Darnall Place (boundary reduction)  
Montgomery County

Dear Carol:

I am requesting a reduction of boundaries for Darnall Place as listed in the National Register in 1979. The area to be deleted, .3 acre, contains no resources that relate to the historic significance of the property and does not add to the setting. The area contains a modern bridge and berm of Whites Ferry Road. The old acreage was 18. The new acreage is 17.7. As the reduction is minuscule, the UTM readings do not change. Both the owner and the state review board concur with this request.

Should you have questions in this matter, please contact Ron Andrews at 301-974-5000.

Sincerely,

J. Rodney Little  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JRL/RLA/pc

cc: State Clearinghouse No. MD870619-0474

Enclosure: 1 continuation sheet

Correspondence:

Little to Kramer, 6/19/87

Simpson to Little, 4/8/87

Andrews to Kramer, 7/24/89

Hager to Little, 8/4/89

Department of Housing and Community Development  
Shaw House, 21 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 974-5000

## ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name Darnall Place
2. Planning Area/Site Number 18-21 3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 13, A-5
4. Address 17615 White's Ferry Road, Poolesville, MD 20837
5. Classification Summary
- Category Buildings
- Ownership Montgomery County
- Public Acquisition "
- Status Occupied
- Accessible yes, restricted
- Present use agriculture, private residence
- Previous Survey Recording HABS Federal x State x County x Local x
- National Register
6. Date Late 18th Century 7. Original Owner Daniel Veirs

## 8. Apparent Condition

a. Fair, deterioratedc. original siteb. altered

## Description

The complex consists of a dwelling and 3 small farm buildings all of stone. Each is built of uncoursed Seneca sandstone with large cut quoining stones. Openings are small in size and few in number. The buildings have a solid blocky appearance.

The stone dwelling has a frame addition. The meathouse/dairy contains two rooms with a stone partition. The barn is small for this area. The two-story slave quarter contains a fireplace on the first floor and an exterior entrance on the second floor reached by a ladder. There is also a 19th century wooden wagon shed with corncribs on each side and a 20th century barn.

A stone fence enclosed family graveyard contains four gravestones of Seneca sandstone dated 1830-1860.

## 10. Significance

The modest scale of the buildings, the same material used for both dwelling and farm buildings, and the continuous use as a farm for more than 200 years make this a unique site.

The property was first owned by Daniel Veirs, a third generation colonist. It was owned by other early settler families, the Dysons, the Darnalls (also spelled Darnell) and in the 20th century the Sellmans.

Its original name is the "Resurvey on None Eaton called the Mary". The name "Darnall Place" derives from the small family graveyard containing Darnall graves.

11. Date researched January, 1977 Mary Ann Kephart
12. Compiler Mary Ann Kephart 13. Date Compiled July, 1978 14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage: 16 Acres

# Easement

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

H #18-21  
160405204  
N

### NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>					
COMMON:					
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Darnall Farm					
<b>2. LOCATION</b>					
STREET AND NUMBER: Rte. 107 at Dry Seneca Creek					
CITY OR TOWN: Dawsonville					
STATE Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress		<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>					
OWNER'S NAME: Eugene B. Casey (Tenant: Cullop)					
STREET AND NUMBER: 1 West Deer Park Drive					
CITY OR TOWN: Gaithersburg			STATE: Maryland		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>					
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey					
DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress					
STREET AND NUMBER: 10 First Street SE					
CITY OR TOWN: Washington, DC			STATE:		



M.18-21

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Darnall Farm consists of a group of Seneca sandstone buildings. Included in the group are a house, slave quarters, a smokehouse, and dairyhouse, barn, frame barn, and a family cemetery.

The house is a one story building with a large external chimney on the east end; both the base and stack are stone, and a cap consists of a course of thin stones projecting beyond the plane of the stack. The facade is three bays on the north and two on the south. To the west is a frame addition which, although modern, is compatible with the older stone wing; the addition replaces a log wing that burned in a fire that also destroyed the roof and framing of the older wing.

To the east of the house is a one and a half story slave quarters. The main (south) facade is two bays with the entrance in the east bay. Heavy timber lintels and jambs support the walls around the openings. In the west gable end is a large opening with a stone lintel; access to the loft was up a ladder and through this doorway. The fireplace is at the east end of the main room; it has a segmentally-arched opening with eleven stone vouissoir stones. The chimney, like that on the main house, is external. The framing for the roof consists of hewn rafters, birdmouthed over the plate; the rafters are half-lapped and pegged at the ridge. At mid-point, collars are half-lapped and pegged to the rafters. Angle braces were half-lapped over the underside of the end rafters, but they are now gone. The loft floor rests on joists that are tapered at the ends and mortised into the stone walls. Evidence exists that there was once a small room to the west of the doorway; between the joists are small struts, the tongues of which rest in notches on the upperside of the joists. These have notches on the side to take other framing members (now gone).

To the north of the house is a double stone building that was both smoke house and dairy. The main (south) facade has two doors, both with heavy timber frames. The west door has a keystone flat arch of three blocks of stone. In the west end are two windows, one in the gable and one for the ground level room; both have one piece stone lintels. The roof framing is similar to that of the quarters; evidence for use of part of the building as a smoke house is the blackened rafters at the east end.

East of the quarters is the stone barn, the roof of which has collapsed. On the south facade, there are three doorways with segmental arches of three blocks each. The north doorway has a flat arch. At either end are two windows at the first floor level; they have horizontal wooden bars mortised into the heavy frames. The joists for the loft are mortised into

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

the stone walls; mortises for partitions or stalls are evidenced on the underside of the joists. The roof-framing is identical to that on the other buildings. On the middle door of the south facade, snibell hinges indicate that this might be an original door.

Northeast of the complex, along the north side of some modern sheds, a graveyard with a stone wall contains four graves. The stones are all in excellent condition, with three footstones also intact. Buried in the yard are Thomas Darnall (d. 1830 at age 65), Henrietta Darnall (d. 1848 at 82), Amos Young Darnall (d. 1836 at 9 m. 24 d.), and Charles William Darnall (d. 1837 at 4 m. 13 D).

The frame barn stands north of the quarters. It is a late nineteenth century barn sitting on stone piers. The braced frame has sawn members, mortised and tenoned and pegged together.

M. 18-21

# SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☒ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

☐ Philosophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☐ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

☐ Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

☐ itation

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:18-21

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 4 Dec. 1973
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

## 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Rock Spring, each of us taking turns to walk along and then ride with father in the buggy. No autos on the roads then as a serious hazard!!!!

The acreage of this farm when purchased by the Griffith family was, and it has remained, for many years more than 250 acres. The land is generally level, has been well cared for, and kept productive by the presence in its economy of many head of stock, horses, cattle, and sheep grazing the well-fenced fields.

The house is compact and convenient, and has changed little in recent years except to provide space for a tenant in part of the rear. As one enters the front hall he sees the steep stairs in front (first floor ceilings are ten feet high). The parlor is on the right, dining room on left. Adjoining the latter was a side porch, now enclosed. Back of the main rooms are another dining room, kitchen and porch. On the second floor are four bedrooms and two baths. The attic is finished up with two rooms.

## Darnell's



NO. 24 E-3 BY A. DARNELL CA. 1750 STONE AND LOGS

THE ancient rambling, picturesque structure shown above is undoubtedly one of the oldest houses in upper Montgomery County. On a tract now being operated as a model dairy farm with a modern new concrete barn, the new and the old features of the place are in striking contrast. The antique building shown above, with a two-story stone slave quarter to be seen at the extreme right of the photograph, seems out of place in Montgomery County. It looks more like some of the cottages to be seen in the hills and valleys of Ireland or Scotland hundreds of years ago. And yet, in spite of its great age, it is a happy and comfort-

able home, with modern conveniences, for a large family.

Located on the north side of the roadway from Dawsonville to Poolesville, it can be seen in a pretty valley of the Little Seneca Creek which meanders through the 257 acre farm. It is about two miles beyond Dawsonville, four miles southeast of Poolesville and thirty-five miles from the Zero milestone. The land for generations has been owned by the Darnell and Dyson families, prominent in upper Montgomery County since before the Revolution.

It is believed that the Darnells owned the place at a very early date, as there are two

graves in a family plot near the barn, with markers to Henrietta Darnell, born 1766, died 1848, aged eighty-two years, and to Thomas Darnell, born 1765, died 1830, aged sixty-five. Fielder Darnell lived on the farm, and in 1842 he acquired a tract of 144 acres from William Dyson, apparently adding it to the farm. In 1882 a tract of 247 acres was conveyed to Benjamin F. Dyson by Joseph Dyson and others; then in 1924, in an equity suit, the trustees appointed by the Court transferred the same 247 acres referred to in the deed of 1882 to Howard Maynard Sellman.

This deed of 1924, recites the fact that "Benjamin F. Dyson executed a paper purporting to be a last will and testament" but continued, "Whereas there is some doubt about the execution of the said will" an agreement was entered into by the heirs of Benjamin F. Dyson. They sold the property for \$12,060 to Sellman and executed a deed to him in September, 1924. Howard Maynard Sellman died, unmarried, in 1927; the farm was inherited by his brother Albert H. Sellman, the owner in 1961.

Albert Sellman, Head Engineer, Bureau of Ordnance, the United States Navy Department, and his wife, who was Miss Elizabeth Harde, live in a modern brick home just west of Sixteenth Street, a few blocks inside the District of Columbia line.

The Darnell family seem to have disappeared from the region of their former works, and there are also very few members of the Dyson family left. The only human interest story the author has uncovered is about one of the Dysons, said to have been Frank Jr. Frank, Junior had several farms and a large family, and while he lived at this farm, he is said to have had no objection to being waked up at any time from midnight to dawn by a gang of racoon hunters on their way home from a chase. In fact he seemed to enjoy coming out to greet the boys—would set them up to cold ham or chicken.

The main part of the long rambling house is constructed of logs covered with siding. Two sections to the right of the frame part are built of thick stone walls, and the whole is painted white outside. There is a front door and hall in the center of the frame part and the parlor with fireplace is to the left of the hall. Still another room, with a large fireplace, is in the extreme right-hand end of the house. The slave quarter at the far right has two floors, the upper one reached only by an outside ladder.

There are white pine floor boards, ten or twelve inch random widths, and the woodwork throughout is very plain and of quite primitive design. The house has every appearance of having been built in Colonial days, yet it is sound and appears to be good for many more decades of use.

### FAMILY TREES!

"Undoubtedly you'll never see,  
A poem like a family tree.

A tree that proves beyond demur  
How eminent one's fathers were,

A tree the intimate WHO'S WHO,  
Of gentle folk whose blood is blue.

A lofty, noble spreading tree  
Of lineage and pedigree,

Where he that looks too closely for  
A primitive progenitor

May find him, hanging stark and grim  
Suspended from a lower limb."

ANONYMOUS

Easement

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
INVENTORY M-18-21

1. STATE Maryland  
COUNTY Montgomery  
TOWN VICINITY  
STREET NO. MD 107 1 mile west of  
Dawsonville  
ORIGINAL OWNER  
ORIGINAL USE  
PRESENT OWNER Eugene Casey  
PRESENT USE Assorted Storage Buildings  
WALL CONSTRUCTION Seneca Sandstone  
NO. OF STORIES

2. NAME "The Darnells"  
DATE OR PERIOD 18th Century  
STYLE Colonial  
ARCHITECT  
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

## 4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

This is an exceptional grouping of 18th century stone buildings, all of local Seneca sandstone. The dwelling house is 3 bays wide and one deep,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories in height with an exterior chimney at the right end. There is a central door. The windows are 8/8 sashes. It is a long very low house with a rather steeply pitched A roof.

Nearby is a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story 3 bay wide sandstone structure with heavy stone lintels and large corner quoins. It has a squared cornice along the roof line. There is an exterior chimney at the right end. This may have been a blacksmith shop or a separate kitchen building.

There is also a long low building with 2 doors on the front and no windows. The doors are vertical batten ones with old squared log frames. The building has large dressed quoins and a very steep A roof with rough log poles set into the walls for roof supports. The walls are about 2 feet thick. This was an ice and cold storage house.

Lastly there is a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story stone barn, very long. There are three doors on the front, each with a segmental arch of trimmed stone. This may have been a stable. It appears too small for a real barn. Again the stone work is excellent and the mortar is decorated with little pebbles. The roof overhangs on one side. This grouping of structures is important as representing a complete mid 18th century stone farm with outbuildings. It is in need of attention.

## 5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE

Endangered

Interior

Exterior



## 6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

## 7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

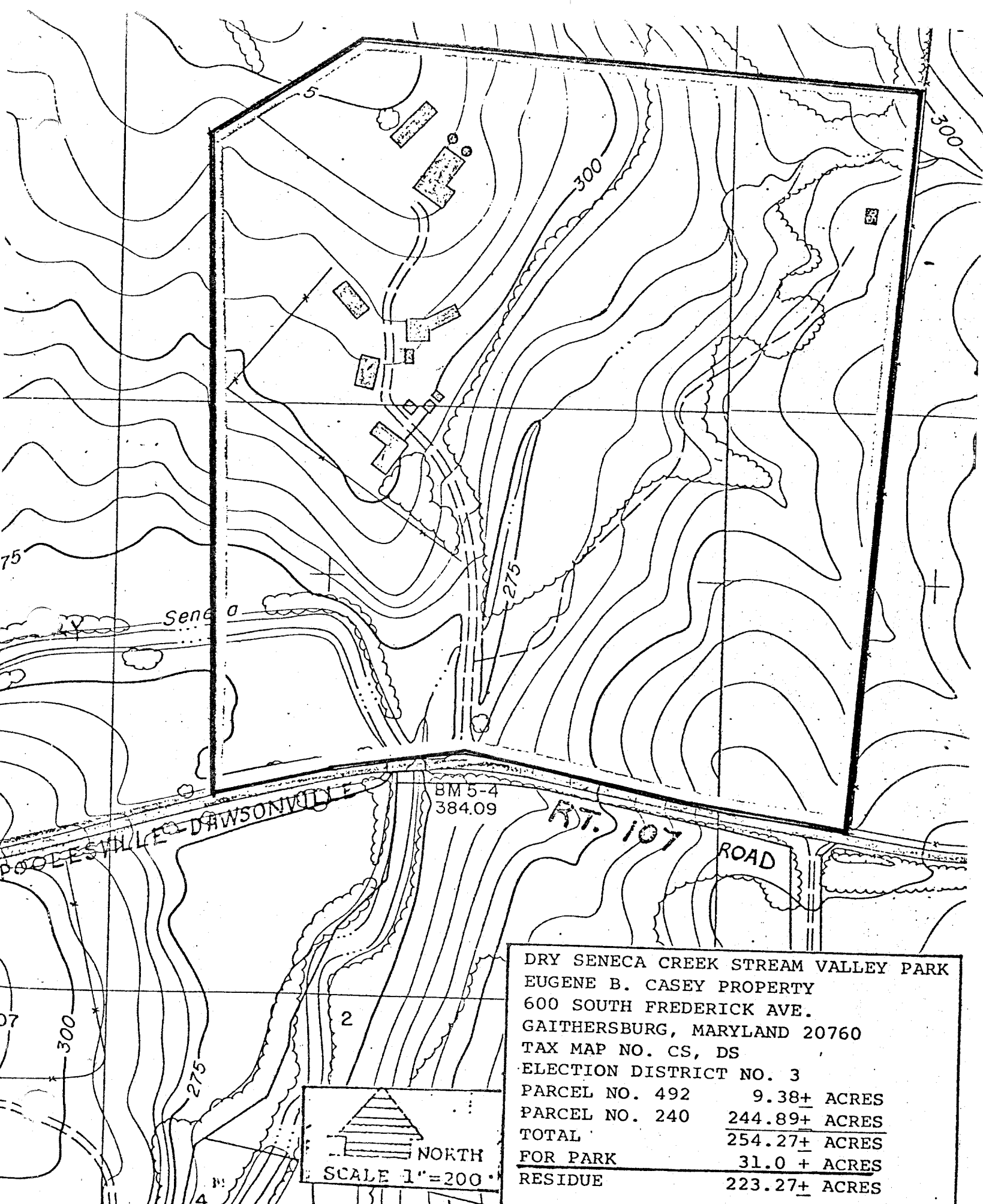
9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

Paul A. Brinkman  
Barry A. Weintraub

DATE OF RECORD July 17, 1968

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE



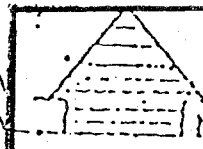


DRY SENECA CREEK STREAM VALLEY PARK  
EUGENE B. CASEY PROPERTY  
600 SOUTH FREDERICK AVE.  
GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND 20760  
TAX MAP NO. CS, DS  
ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 3  
PARCEL NO. 492 9.38+ ACRES  
PARCEL NO. 240 244.89+ ACRES  
TOTAL 254.27+ ACRES  
FOR PARK 31.0 + ACRES  
RESIDUE 223.27+ ACRES

M.18-21

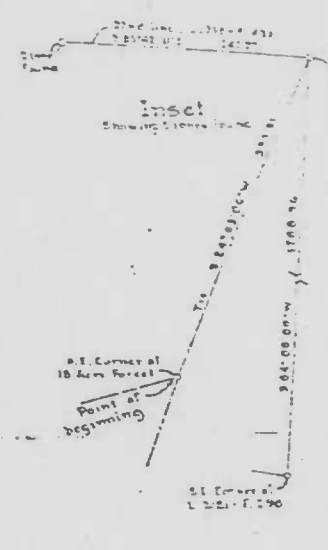
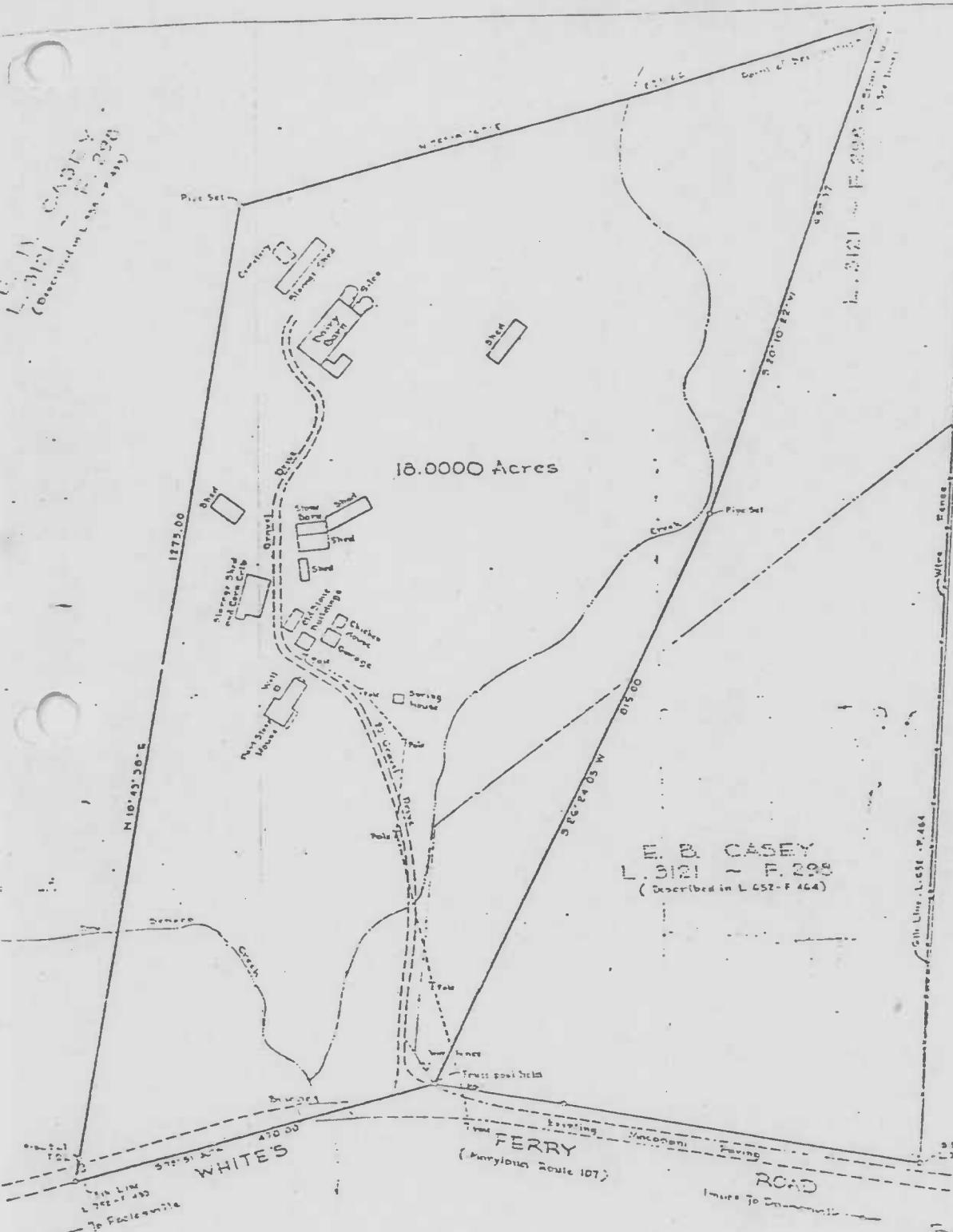


M: 18-21





E. B. CASEY  
L. 3121 - P. 298  
(Described in L. 652-F 464)



E. B. CASEY  
L. 3121 - P. 298  
(Described in L. 652-F 464)

### Surveyor's Certificate

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original survey of the land conveyed by Albert H. Sellman and Elizabeth Sellman, his wife, to Eugene B. Casey, by deed of August 2, 1963 and returned among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, in Liber 3121 at Folio 298.

The improvements shown hereon were located a small scale survey and properly shown on the plan and placed where the same location.

The land area included within the location of the survey is 18.0000 acres of land.

August 10, 1978 *Paul K. Miller*  
Professional Land Surveyor

NOTE  
Outline and area revised from 24 acres to 18 acres 8-9-78

NOTE  
This survey was performed and shown of a title record and is subject to all other records and instruments on record, and the surveyor is not responsible for any errors or omissions.

### Boundary Survey Part of Eugene B. Casey Property

Emmitsburg - Montgomery County, Maryland  
August 1978  
Oyster, Imus & Pelzold, Inc.  
Civil Engineers • Land Planners • Land Surveyors  
2410 Western Drive • Bethesda, Maryland • 20814

M.18-21

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Darnall Place  
Montgomery County  
Maryland

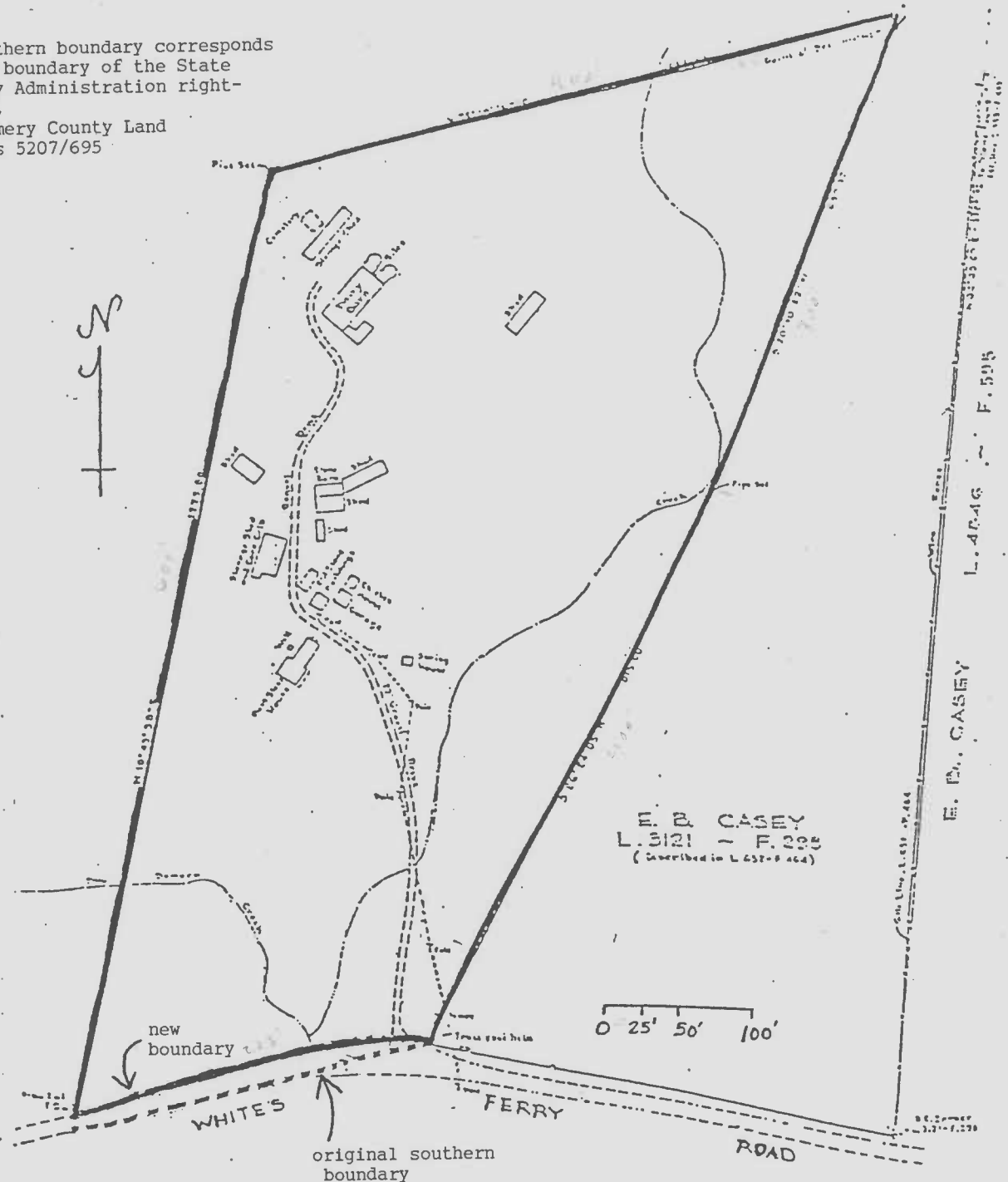
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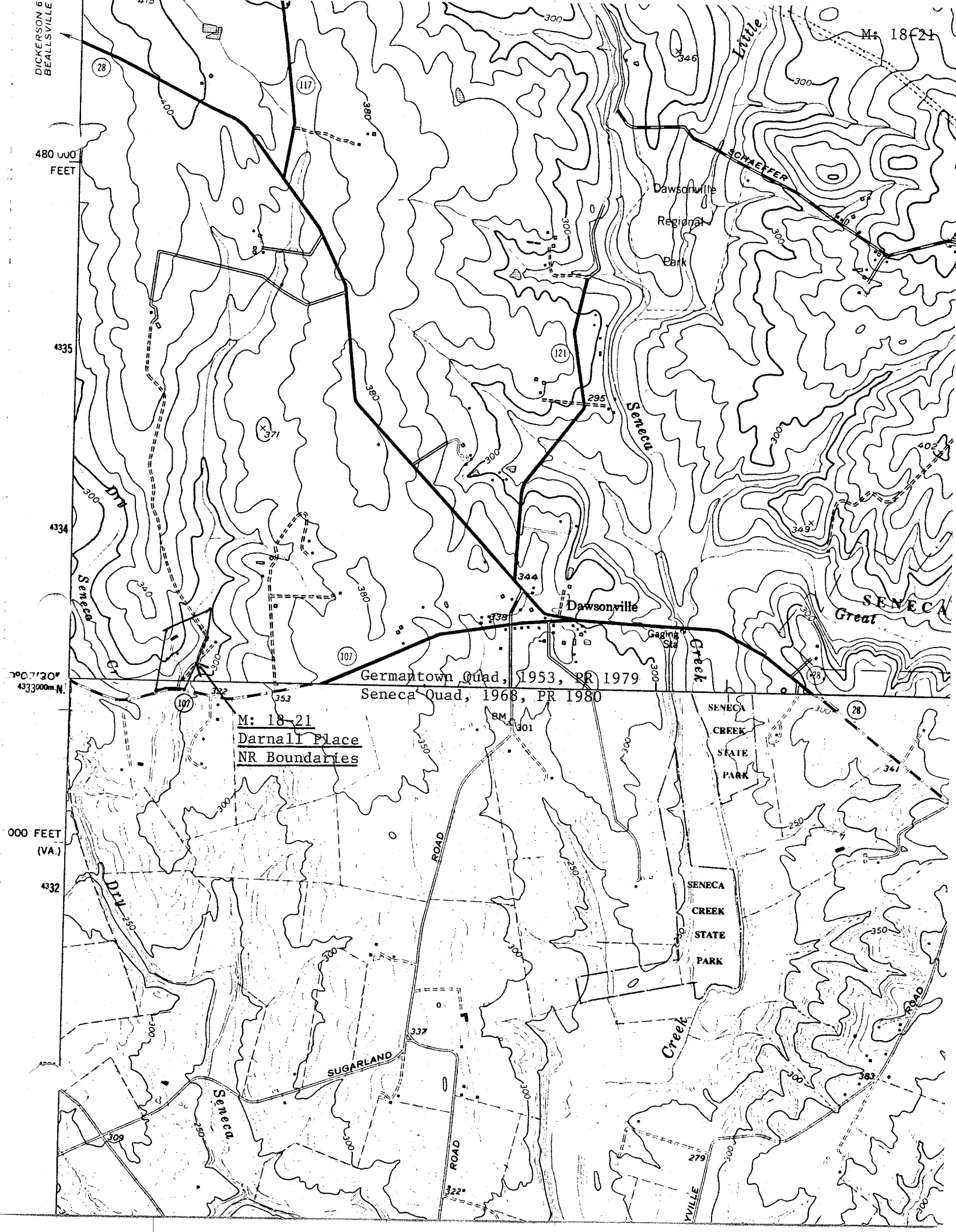
Section number 10 Page A

May, 1989

BOUNDARY MAP acreage: 17.7

new southern boundary corresponds  
to the boundary of the State  
Highway Administration right-  
of-way,  
Montgomery County Land  
Records 5207/695





# MEDLEY DIST.

## Nº 3.

Mont Co.

Scale 1 1/4 Inches to a Mile.



Note: The Figures on the Roads represent the Distance in Rods from junctions.

M: 18-21

St Marks Ch

Gem:

Taylor.  
Sch.

ARK

DICKERSON 6 MI.  
BEALLSVILLE 2.6 MI.

480 000  
FEET

M: 18-21

~~Darnall Place & Cemetery (The Darnells)~~  
~~Germantown Quad, 1953 PR 1979<sup>00</sup>~~

Germantown Quad, 1953 PR 1979<sup>300</sup>

Dawsonville

Regional

PAK

ville

Gaging

67

SENECA  
Great

3°07'30" 77°22'30"

700 000 FEET

POOLESVILLE 3.8 MI

20'

299





#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION RT. 107 POORESVILLE, Md.

FACADE E.

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



NAME THE DARNALLS # 18-21

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



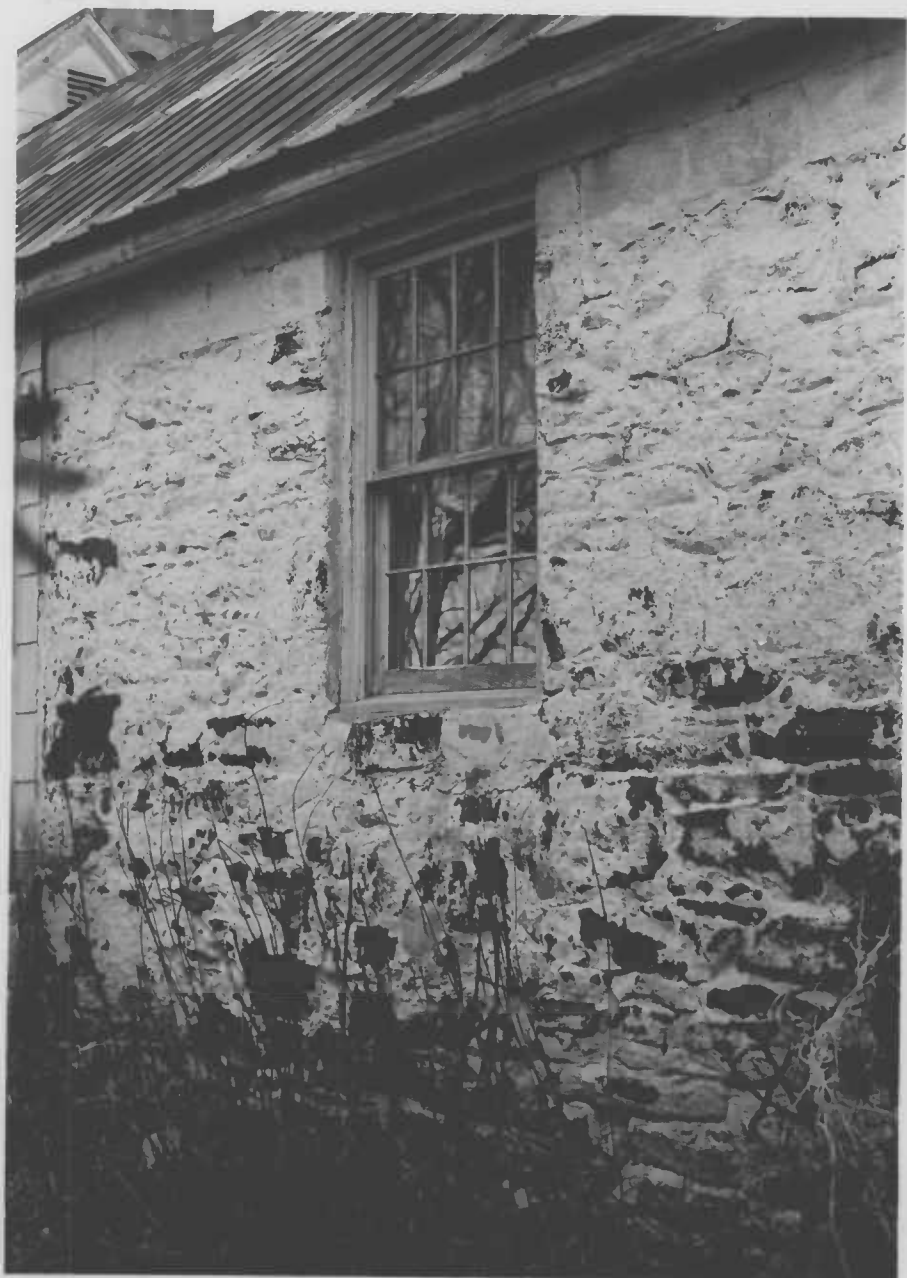
#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION RT. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER





#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE INTERIOR FIREPLACE IN NORTH WALL

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER





#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



# 18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER





NAME THE DARNALLS #18-21

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, MD.

FACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS - HINGE

LOCATION RT. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 PODESVILLE, Md

FACADE N.

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER





#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS - SANDSTONE BARN

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS - SANDSTONE BARN

LOCATION Rt. 107 POTTESVILLE, Md.

FACADE W.

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



NAME THE DARNALLS / CORN CRIB + TRACTOR SHED

#18-21

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



NAME THE DARNALLS

#18-21

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER





NAME THE DARNALLS

#18-21

LOCATION RT. 107 POOLESVILLE, MD

FACADE TAKEN FROM RT. 107 - LOOKING N

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER



NAME STONE QUARRY + OLD ROAD

#18-21

LOCATION RT. 107 AT DRY SENECA CREEK, POOLESVILLE, MD

FACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER

Sacred to  
the Memory of  
THOMAS DARNALL  
who departed this life  
on the 15th day of June 1870  
aged 66 years.  
Those who knew him best  
knew his worth.

#18-21

NAME THE DARNALLS - CEMETERY

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN 12/4/73 M. DWYER